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By Patricia Muir  
Patricia Muir

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : Abe KEIKO  
Hitoshi IKEDA  
Masao HIGUCHI  
Nobuo SHIRAI

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 22 2004  
Technology Center 2600

Serial No. : 09/195,080

Filed : November 18, 1998

Title : **PACKET TRANSFER APPARATUS**

Examiner : Kevin C. Harper

Group Art Unit : 2666

September 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 16, 2004, please amend the subject  
application as follows: